

25th November 2022



# Mail on Friday

## Redhill Primary Academy and Nursery Weekly Newsletter

Email us at: [parentcontact@redhillprimary.co.uk](mailto:parentcontact@redhillprimary.co.uk)

### Class Drop-In Sessions

There will be no drop-in sessions for the rest of this term.  
This is due to Christmas performances and other commitments.  
We will let you when they will restart in the new year.  
Thank you.

### Children in Need

Thank you to everyone for your donations.  
Together, we raised a grand total of £519 which will be sent to the charity.

### Individual School Photographs

Just a quick reminder to let you know that Monday 5th December is the last order date for families who wish to order school photos for delivery before Christmas.  
(Although, please do keep in mind the Royal Mail strikes.)

### Christmas Dinner

Each year, we hold a Christmas dinner to which all the children are invited to take part. The hall is decorated, the children make party hats to wear and Christmas music is played. A turkey meal will be provided. A vegan/vegetarian alternative will also be available for the children who are vegan/vegetarian. Please note that there will be no sandwich or jacket potato bar on this day, so please provide a packed lunch if your child does not wish to have the dinner.

The dinner will be served on  
**Wednesday 14th December**

If your child would like a hot dinner on this day, please ensure that the ParentPay dinner account is topped up.

<https://forms.office.com/r/0VxAaeW1NM>

### Christmas Performance DVD

If you would like to purchase a DVD of your child's Christmas performance (Nursery to Year 4 performances only), you can do so via ParentPay priced at £1.50. So that the DVD can be prepped and sent out before the end of the year, please note that the deadline for your order is Friday 9th December at 3pm.

### Christmas Performance

#### Deadline for Booking a Crèche Place - 28th November

A crèche will be provided for babies/children who do not attend school for the Nursery and Reception, Year 1/2 and Year 3/4 performances. We are sorry, but due to the constrictions of our school hall, we are unable to accommodate non-school children to watch the performances, even sitting on knees.

All crèche places must be booked so that we can arrange staffing

<https://forms.office.com/r/rxZzFWSzdf>

## ParentSafe

### Keeping your Children Safe: Online and Beyond

Please find below a useful link with regards to children's safety:

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

## Christmas Gifts

The staff are well aware of current financial pressures. Therefore, please do not feel that you should buy presents for them this year. Thank you.

## Christmas Parties

### Christmas Parties w/c 13th December 2022

We will be holding our class Christmas parties during w/c 13th December.

Please can children arrive at school wearing their party clothes and then they can remain in them all day. Please can the Year 1 and Year 2 children bring a Redhill sweatshirt, cardigan or hoodie to wear over their party clothes to attend the pantomime in the afternoon.

Children can bring one item of party food to eat for themselves, but please do not bring sweets or nuts.

**Tuesday 13th December**

Nursery and Reception

**Thursday 15th December**

Year 1

Year 2

**Friday 16th December**

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6



## Mr Maddy's Remembrance Bench

We would like to say a big thank you to all our parents and staff who donated to Severn Hospice and contributed to Mr Maddy's remembrance bench. The bench will be placed in our pond area when the building works to the new nursery have finished and we can get into the area again.





## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

PEGI RATING  
7+

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

#### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

#### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

#### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

#### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

#### PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

#### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

#### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: [www.theweek.com/2017/02/23/roblox-will-be-the-most-popular-gaming-platform/](http://www.theweek.com/2017/02/23/roblox-will-be-the-most-popular-gaming-platform/)  
<http://www.roblox.com/parents/>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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